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C.I.A.'S IMAGE CHANGES

Under McCone's Directorship the Military Role of The Agency Is to Be De-Emphasized

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WASHINGTON, Jan. 27 — The Senate is expected to confirm on Monday the appointment of a new "commander-in-chief" of the Central Intelligence Agency.

John A. McCone of California, former chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission and former Under Secretary of the Air Force, has already, after only a few weeks in office, established the aura of command in the sprawling super-secret agency. His subordinates say: "He commands; you know who is in charge."

Mr. McCone was sworn into office on Nov. 29 to succeed Allen W. Dulles, the nation's so-called "master spy." He has spent the intervening weeks in acquainting himself with the vast organization, study its operations and formulating his opinions. Mr. McCone, who is familiar with the in-fighting of Washington and who does not buckle easily to either opposition or criticism, has already experienced and surmounted strong press attacks upon him—some of them believed to be politically inspired—and his confirmation by a large vote seems assured.

Child of Disaster

The new director takes the helm at a time of change. About half of the C. I. A.'s 8,000 to 9,000 Washington employees have moved their operations to the partly completed "C. I. A. Pentagon," a vast building at McLean, Va., outside of the District of Columbia. The agency, still shadowed by the Cuban fiasco, is under study, and personnel and organizational changes are starting. The agency must coordinate and cooperate with a newly established Defense Intelligence Agency in the Pentagon, which is still incomplete.

The Central Intelligence Agency was established in 1947, partly as a result of the intelligence weaknesses revealed after the Pearl Harbor attack at the start of World War II. It was a child of disaster, born in controversy, reared to maturity in a time of global strain.

The C. I. A. was placed by law under the National Security Council "for the purpose of coordinating the intelligence activities of the several Government departments and agencies in the interest of national security."

But under the law, the C. I. A. is far more than a coordinating agency. It is the senior member—and the largest one—of the so-called "intelligence community." This in-

of the Pentagon—Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and now the new Defense Intelligence Agency; the State Department; the Atomic Energy Commission, the Treasury Department; the Federal Bureau of Investigation; the communications sleuths and code-breakers of the highly secret National Security Agency and other intelligence organizations. Its director is charged with coordinating the efforts and output of these agencies.

Each morning a C. I. A. briefing prepares the President and some members of his immediate official family for the crises of the day. The C. I. A. is not a policy-making agency, but it does collect data.

The budget of the C. I. A. is hidden; aside from its executives, the President and a few of his official family, only the close-mouthed members of four subcommittees of the Senate and House know the figures. Few people know the C. I. A.'s exact size; from 12,000 to 15,000 fulltime employees all over the world might be a good guess.

Estimates Made

The C. I. A. collects intelligence openly; the grist of its mill is literally everything and anything from press reports and diplomatic cables to eyewitness accounts of travelers, or data furnished by foreign Governments. It supplements its overt or open sources with covert or secret means—spies, air reconnaissance, submarine patrols, the interception of foreign communications, the electronic eye of radar and so on. All this vast amount of data—literally hundreds of millions of facts—are interpreted, filed, catalogued, assessed and finally served up in the form of estimates.

After the Cuban fiasco, the wings of this vast agency, it was then said, were likely to be clipped. It now appears, at least in the first days of Mr. McCone's era, that the agency's

functions are likely to remain virtually intact.

The President on Jan. 16 gave Mr. McCone a directive that stressed his coordinating and review of judicial functions. As head of the Central Intelligence Agency, Mr. McCone wears two hats; he is also Director of Central Intelligence, an office in which he supervises and guides the nation's entire foreign intelligence activities. It was this role the President stressed; he specified that "I shall expect you to delegate to your principal deputy" much of the detailed operation of the agency "to permit you to carry out your primary tasks as Director of Central Intelligence."

Other Changes

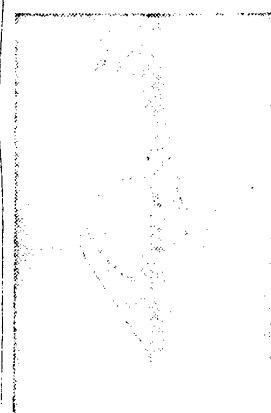
He added that he expected Mr. McCone to more or less formalize a de facto practice of the Dulles regime; Mr. McCone will serve as chairman of the United States Intelligence Board, composed of representatives of the principal agencies of the intelligence community, and his deputy will represent the agency on the board, thus, at least in theory, making Mr. McCone a kind of impartial judge or chairman of a board where differing estimates will be discussed.

In addition to these changes, which are more of form than substance, personnel and organizational changes are taking place in the agency itself. A new deputy to relieve Air Force Gen. C. P. Cabell, who retires Jan. 31, is to be appointed.

To Be Shifted

In addition to a new deputy, other changes are slated. Richard M. Bissell, who as director of operations at the C. I. A. was in immediate charge of the Cuban operation, will either leave the agency altogether or will be shifted to a new job. No successor has yet been selected. But covert operations will continue to be controlled by the C. I. A. When they become so big—as they did at the time of Cuba—to become open rather than secret, control will shift to the Pentagon; the general rule of thumb for the future is that the C. I. A. will not handle any primarily military operations, or ones of such size that they cannot be kept secret. However, each case will apparently be judged on its merits; there is no hard-and-fast formula that will put one operation under the C. I. A. and another under the Pentagon.

Robert Amory, the C. I. A.'s director of intelligence, will retain his job, and apparently no other immediate major



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John McCone,
Director of C. I. A.

Board of National Estimates, composed of twelve senior and experienced personnel who in the past have reviewed and analyzed intelligence and provided finished estimates, will in the future also review planned or impending operations to provide a judicious and non-participating judgment of their feasibility and desirability. Size and scope of the board may be expanded.

At the same time the organization of the agency is under study by a committee composed of Lyman Kirkpatrick, the agency's inspector general as chairman; Gen. Cortlandt van Rensselaer Schuyler, U. S. A., retired, executive assistant to Governor Rockefeller, and J. Patrick Coyne, a former F. B. I. agent, now executive director of the President's board of consultants on foreign intelligence activities.

McCone's View

This group, established by Mr. McCone to aid him in studying the organization of the agency, has not made its recommendations. Mr. McCone is known to favor, however, a strong scientific intelligence effort, and he is likely to strengthen still more the agency's present capabilities in this field.

One other change of note may become apparent in the next few months. The C. I. A. will probably become more of an anonymous agency—a faceless one—under Mr. McCone than it has been in the past. The new director does not expect to accept speaking engagements or invitations to other public functions in the immediate future, nor are his subordinates likely to do so.

Thus, changes in methods, in emphasis and in organization and administration are likely to be more pronounced in the C. I. A. and in the intelligence community generally in the months and years immediately ahead than changes in mission or function or scope. Espionage of many kinds and secret operations are essential parts of a major power's governmental machinery today, and they will remain so during the era of the New Frontier just as they were during President Eisenhower's "New Look."

